Atty. Dkt. No. 054707-1231

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Gregory S. HAMILTON et al.

Title: HETEROCYCLIC KETONE AND THIOESTER

COMPOUNDS AND USES

Prior Appl. No.: 10/104,242

Prior App. Filing Date: 03/25/2002

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 1625

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present continuing application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered into the application.

The amendments presented below are in compliance with the revised amendment format permitted in the Notice from the Office of Patent Legal Administration of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office dated February 10, 2003, and published at 1267 OG 106 on February 25, 2003. Thus, the provisions of 37 CFR 1.121(a), (b), (c) and (d) are waived for amendments made in this application to the claims, specification, and drawings.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this document.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: